This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective control, comprising:

an application program with which a user is actively engaged;

means for determining the apparent affective state of the user; ~~and~~

means for changing the output of the application program responsive to the apparent affective state of the user;

wherein said application program comprises means of user input;

wherein said user input is text; and

wherein said means for changing the operation of the application program comprises means for changing the appearance of text input by the user if the apparent affective state of the user indicates that text output by the application program should be marked.

2. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 1, wherein said means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to the facial expressions of the user.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective control as in claim [[[3]]] 1, wherein said means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to content of said user input.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) An information system under affective control as in claim 1, wherein said application program is a program for transmission to others of text composed by the user.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A method of processing text indicating the emotional state of the writer at the time of writing, comprising the steps of:

(a) accepting text input from the writer;

(b) determining the apparent emotional state of the writer;

(c) marking the appearance of at least a portion of the text accepted from the writer if the apparent emotional state of the writer indicates that the text should be marked; and

(d) outputting marked text, thereby indicating the apparent emotional state of the writer.

10. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in claim 9, wherein said step of determining the apparent emotional state of the writer is performed by monitoring at least one of the writer's text input characteristics, text content, writer autonomic indicators and the facial expressions of the writer.

11. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in claim 9, wherein said step of accepting text input from the writer comprises receiving text manually input by the writer into a text input device and said step of determining the apparent emotional state of the writer is performed at least in part by determining the force used by the writer in manually inputting text into the input device.

12. through 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) An information system, comprising:

an application program for engaging by a user;

means for monitoring factors relating to an emotional state of the user; and

means for changing the operation of the application program responsive to the emotional state of the user;

wherein said means for changing the operation of the application program comprises means for changing the appearance of text input by the user if the apparent affective state of the user indicates that the text input by the user should be marked.

20. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring characteristics of text inputted into the application program by the user.

21. through 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim 20 wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of text inputted includes means for monitoring appearance characteristics of the inputted text indicating the emotional state of the user.

24. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring characteristics of creation of a document by the text inputted by the user.

25. through 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring characteristics of the user as the user inputs text into the application program.

30. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim 29 wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of the user includes means for monitoring a degree of force exerted by the user on a manual input device as the user inputs text.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective control ~~as in claim 32,~~ comprising:

an application program with which a user is actively engaged;

means for determining the apparent affective state of the user; and

means for changing the operation of the application program responsive to the apparent affective state of the user;

wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises a manual input device capable of measuring a degree of force applied by the user to the manual input device;

wherein the manual input device comprises a keyboard capable of measuring a degree of force applied by the user to a key on the keyboard.

34. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective control ~~as in claim 32~~, comprising:

an application program with which a user is actively engaged;

means for determining the apparent affective state of the user; and

means for changing the operation of the application program responsive to the apparent affective state of the user;

wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises a manual input device capable of measuring a degree of force applied by the user to the manual input device;

wherein the manual input device comprises a computer mouse capable of measuring a degree of force applied by the user to a button on the mouse.

35. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for analyzing aspects of speech of the user.

36. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing aspects of speech includes means for measuring the timing of utterance of the voice of the user.

37. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing aspects of speech includes means for measuring the quality of the voice of the user.

38. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing aspects of speech includes means for measuring the utterance pitch contour of the voice of the user.

39. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for measuring autonomic responses of the user.

40. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring autonomic responses of the user comprises means for measuring characteristics of the skin of the user.

41. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring autonomic responses of the user comprises means for measuring characteristics of the eye of the user.

42. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring characteristics of the eye of the user measures dilation of the eye of the user.

43. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring characteristics of the eye of the user measures a rate at which the user blinks the eye.

44. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for analyzing facial expressions of the user.

45. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 44, wherein the means for analyzing facial expressions of the user comprises a video camera.

46. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for analyzing gestures of the user.

47. (Previously Presented) An information system under affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for detecting marking by the user of text entered by the user.